

NOTICE FROM: NOAA NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

CAREFUL!! Bottlenose Dolphins Present



Photo credit: NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

CAREFUL!! Bottlenose Dolphins Present

ADMIRE THEM FROM A DISTANCE

For more information
please contact:

NOAA National Marine
Fisheries Service
Protected Resources Division
Marine Mammal Health and
Stranding Response Program
1 Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

978-281-9300

NERStranding.staff@noaa.gov



• The **Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)** prohibits the “taking” of marine mammals. The term “take” means to harass, hunt, capture, kill or feed, or attempt any of these activities. Northeast regional guidelines for safe dolphin watching apply: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/protectedresources/MMWatch/protectdolphins.htm

• **DO NOT APPROACH:** Resist the urge to get close or interact with the dolphins.

• **DO NOT TOUCH:** Marine mammals carry diseases which may be transmissible to humans.

• **DO NOT GET INTO THE WATER**

• **DO NOT FEED THE DOLPHINS:** The dolphins need to keep their hunting skills sharp and need time to eat uninterrupted.

• **DO NOT INTERFERE WITH NATURAL BEHAVIORS:** Move away slowly if you cannot avoid the dolphins.

We encourage you to observe them from a distance of at least 50 yards. Please use binoculars or telephoto lenses to get a closer view.

Report injured or stranded dolphins to the Marine Mammal Stranding Center at 609-266-0538

Violators subject to prosecution and fines up to \$10,000